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QUERY CONTROL FORM				RTIS USE ONLY	
Application No.	09/841,654	Prepared by	NPB	Tracking Number	06010259
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JACKET			
a. Serial No.	f. Foreign Priority	k. Print Claim(s)	p. PTO-1449
b. Applicant(s)	g. Disclaimer	l. Print Fig.	q. PTOL-85b
c. Continuing Data	h. Microfiche Appendix	m. Searched Column	r. Abstract
d. PCT	i. Title	n. PTO-270/328	s. Sheets/Figs
e. Domestic Priority	j. Claims Allowed	o. PTO-892	t. Other

SPECIFICATION

a. Page Missing
b. Text Continuity
c. Holes through Data
d. Other Missing Text
e. Illegible Text
f. Duplicate Text
g. Brief Description
h. Sequence Listing
i. Appendix
j. Amendments
k. Other

CLAIMS

a. Claim(s) Missing
b. Improper Dependency
c. Duplicate Numbers
d. Incorrect Numbering
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g. Amendments
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MESSAGE

In claim pages dated 06/17/04, orginal claim 125 (now claim 76) depends from orginal claim 137 (now 88).

Please advise/correct claim dependency.

Thank you

initials

RESPONSE

initials

wt% of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, titanium, magnesium, cobalt, copper, vanadium, manganese, niobium, and iron;

feeding liquid benzene to the reaction zone;

feeding nitrous oxide to the distillation zone;

contacting the benzene and the oxidant gas with the oxidation catalyst under oxidation conditions effective to catalytically hydroxylate at least a portion of the benzene to produce hydroxylated product comprising phenol, the oxidation conditions comprising a temperature of from above 100°C to 270°C and a benzene partial pressure in the range of from about 0.1 atm to about 45 atm;

separating liquid phenol from the distillation zone.

124. (New) The process of claim 123 wherein the temperature of the distillation zone is higher than the boiling point of benzene and lower than the boiling point of phenol.

125. (New) The process of claim 123 wherein the at least one metal comprises iron.

126. (New) The process of claim 125 wherein the zeolite catalyst comprises from about 0.1 wt. % iron to about 1.0 wt. % iron.

127. (New) The process of claim 126 wherein the zeolite is an alumino-silicate produced without addition of boron.

128. (New) The process of claim 123 wherein the separating liquid phenol from the distillation zone comprises substantially continuous fractional distillation.

129. (New) The process of claim 127 wherein the separating liquid phenol from the distillation zone comprises substantially continuous fractional distillation.

130. (New) The process of claim 123 wherein the oxidation conditions comprise a temperature of from about 185 °C. to about 270 °C.

131. (New) The process of claim 129 wherein the conditions comprise a temperature of from about 185 °C. to about 270 °C.

132. (New) The process of claim 123 wherein selectivity for conversion of the oxidant gas to hydroxylated product is at least 90 mol %.